GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:229
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
CRIMES AND ACCIDENTS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS/EXPRESSWAYS
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether crimes and accidents on National Highways and Expressways have increased in the past few months in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in the absence of basic facilities at National Highways and Expressways the crime rate has increased; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure safe journey on National Highways and Expressways?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 229 FOR ANSWER ON 21.07.2004 REGARDING CRIMES AND ACCIDENT ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS/EXPRESSWAYS ASKED BY SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR AND SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY.

(a)&(b) Incidents of crime on National Highways and Expressways are not reported to the Central Government by the State Governments/Union Territories. However, accident data compiled by the States/Union Territories are forwarded annually to the Government of India, which shows an increasing trend.

(c)&(d) There could be a number of reasons for crimes on National Highways and Expressways and these may not be directly correlated with the basic facilities there. However, the Government has taken a number of steps to ensure safe journey on National Highways and Expressways, some of which are as under:

i Providing of ambulances, cranes etc. to State Governments and Non-Government Organisations under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme and highway patrolling;

ii. Widening of existing pavement;
iii. Strengthening of existing pavement ;
iv. Improvement of road geometrics;
v. Augmentation of retro-reflective signages, thermo-plastic road markings;
vi. Funding of training to drivers of heavy motor vehicles; and
vii. Tightening of fitness norms for transport vehicles.